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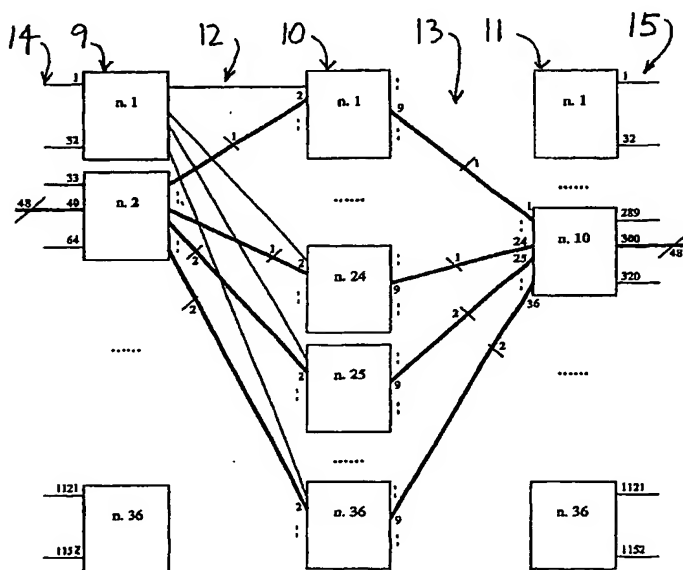
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(54) Title: SWITCHING NETWORK

(57) **Abstract:** A switching network forms part of a digital cross-connect for connecting data frames between requested inputs and outputs, and includes an input stage 9, an intermediate stage 10, and an output stage 11, each of which consists of a plurality of switching matrices. Each input stage switching matrix has a link, indicated generally by the reference 12, to each intermediate stage switching matrix and each intermediate stage switching matrix has a link, indicated generally by the reference 13, to each output stage switching matrix. In accordance with the invention, individual timeslots of incoming data frames are independently routed through the switching matrices, reducing the possibility of blocking taking place.

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